Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Homeownership provides the basis upon which neighborhood stabilization, childhood and family security and personal dreams are built; and,

Whereas, Economic development and social and civic leaders statewide continue to stress the importance and value of homeownership in our communities and our society; and,

Whereas, Studies have indicated that children in owned homes score higher in the areas of math and reading, have lower school dropout rates, attain a higher level of education, lower teen pregnancy rates, have an increased level of emotional support, have fewer behavioral problems and are more likely to become homeowners themselves; and,

Whereas, Homeowner opportunities depend upon partners, including homebuilders, Realtors, land developers, lenders, governments and schools, working together; and,

Whereas, More than 65,000 South Dakota families have received low-interest home loans through the South Dakota Housing Development Authority; and,

Whereas, According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Statistics, South Dakota's homeownership rate was 70.6 percent this past calendar year; and,

Whereas, South Dakota strives to increase the rate of homeownership in our state by encouraging homebuilders, non-profits, lenders, Realtors, economic development professionals, community leaders and the South Dakota Housing Development Authority to continue their efforts in developing and financing housing opportunities:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 2007 as

HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State